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1. The Chief Directorate of Maritime Technical Supply (Glavnoye Upravleniye Tekhnicheskogo Snabzheniya - GlavMorTekhSnab) of the Ministry of the Merchant Fleet is responsible for the manufacture, procurement, and repair of all technical equipment and instruments used within the ministry. The chief directorate has several sections, each handling special types of technical equipment and instruments. I do not know its internal organization except that it has a total of some 20 employees, including a number of engineers and expert technicians.
2. Every year the budget of the Ministry of the Merchant Fleet (MMF) provides a special fund for the procurement and repair of technical equipment and instruments. The amount is based on the consolidated annual requirements plan, submitted to MMF by GlavMorTekhSnab on the basis of requests made by the various field agencies of the ministry through their respective directorates. GlavMorTekhSnab makes the apportionment of funds to the chief directorates, who in turn assign definite credits to their own field agencies.
3. Frequently the needed technical equipment or instruments cannot be procured from establishments subordinate to the Ministry of the Merchant Fleet. For this reason GlavMorTekhSnab maintains close relations with other ministries which control the procurement and repair of technical equipment. If, for example, the

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Main Administration of Signal Service, MMF, needs radio equipment, it submits a request to GlavMortekhSnab for transmission to the Ministry of the Communication Equipment Industry. This ministry prepares a so-called raznoryadka (procurement breakdown), assigning the manufacture or repair of this equipment to individual plants and factories.

4. GlavMortekhSnab has its own field offices in all large industrial centers of the USSR where technical equipment for the MMF is manufactured or repaired. I personally know of the following field agencies of GlavMortekhSnab:

- (a) KaspMortekhSnab (Caspian Sea Technical Supply Agency in Baku)
- (b) The Leningrad Agency
- (c) The Odessa Agency
- (d) The Novosibirsk Agency
- (e) The Voronezh Agency
- (f) The Riga Agency

I believe that these are either all or at least the more important agencies of GlavMortekhSnab in the USSR. Formerly it also had an agency in Astrakhan but it was abolished in 1950 because it had not enough work to justify its existence.

5. In addition to the field agencies of GlavMortekhSnab, the 10 operational chief directorates (main administrations - Glavk) of the MMF have their own technical supply sections (otdel snabzheniya). These Glavks are the following:

- (a) The Chief Directorate (CD) of Maritime Industrial Enterprises - GlavMorProm
- (b) The CD of Machinery Construction Enterprises - GlavMashProm
- (c) The CD of Maritime Construction - GlavMorStroy
- (d) The CD of the Far Eastern Fleet - GlavDal'Flot
- (e) The CD of the Northwestern Fleet - GlavSevZapFlot
- (f) The CD of the Southern Fleet - GlavYuzhFlot
- (g) The CD of the Petroleum Shipping Fleet - GlavNeftaFlot
- (h) The CD of Maritime Routes - GlavMorPut
- (i) The Main Inspectorate of Harbors and Navigation
- (j) The Main Administration of Signal Service

6. The technical supply sections within the individual Glavks have usually three to four employees, one or two of them engineers. They are referred to as Otdel Snabzheniya GlavNeftaFlota or Otdel Snabzheniya GlavMorStroya, etc. These sections handle financial matters when enterprises belonging to other ministries

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participate in the manufacture or repair of technical equipment or instruments for the MNF. In such cases they make financial transfers through accounts with the State Bank. In addition, these supply sections distribute the equipment and instruments which have been received to the individual field agencies in their respective Glavks.

7. Just as GlavMortekhSnab has its field agencies in large industrial centers, the technical supply sections of the Glavks have their agencies in all shipyards, ship repair yards, wharves, and plants which are manufacturing or repairing technical equipment for the MNF. This is true even though some of these industrial establishments have no direct connection with the MNF.
8. At a lower level there are supply sections in all steamship companies, directorates of maritime routes, and ports. Their Russian titles are as follows: Otdel Snabzheniya Parokhodstva Reydtanker, Otdel Snabzheniya KaspMorPuti, Otdel Snabzheniya Astrakhanskogo Porta. The task of these supply sections is to compile lists of technical equipment and instruments which have to be manufactured or repaired for their organizations. In practice, however, their main task is to insure that repair and manufacture of equipment is done in the shortest time possible.
9. Instead of regular supply sections some steamship companies have "Supply-Procurement Offices" (Zagotovitel'no-Snabzhenskaya Kontora). In addition to the regular supply functions these procurement offices are authorized to use the decentralized method of procurement. In practice this means that they may apply directly to any plant or factory, draw up contracts, and get equipment manufactured or repaired without making the request through their Glavk. Funds for this type of procurement are made available by the respective Glavks in the form of accounts in the State Bank. Officially, however, even in cases of direct procurement, the approval of the responsible Glavk should be obtained, but this step has become a mere formality. Until 1948 there were supply procurement offices in all steamship companies. At that time, in a move for centralization, they were abolished in all steamship companies except in the following: The Baltic State Steamship Company, the Black Sea Dry Cargo State Steamship Company, the Far Eastern State Steamship Company, and the Northern State Steamship Company. The centralization move, however, proved unsuccessful; for the newly created supply sections (otdel snabzheniya), with their limited personnel, were often forced to perform the duties of the supply procurement offices (ZagotSnab-Kontora) which had been abolished.
10. Although the system of direct procurement was authorized only for the supply procurement offices, it has been used, unofficially, more and more by the regular supply sections in recent years. In my opinion this was done with the tacit consent, if not with the encouragement, of the various Glavks, which were trying to shift the work and the responsibility connected with procurement and manufacture of technical equipment to their field agencies. Shifting the responsibility to a subordinate agency is not an exceptional policy of the MNF but rather a common characteristic of the entire higher administration in the USSR.

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